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# China Mail

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No. 19,593

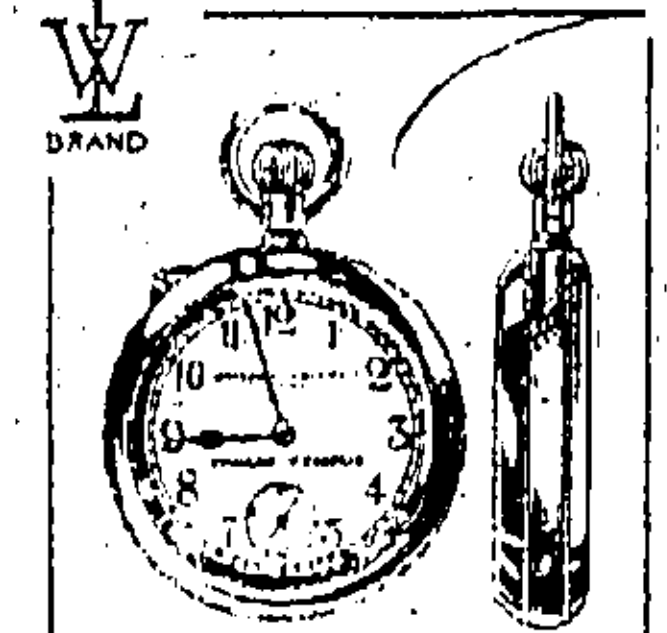
HONGKONG, WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 1925.

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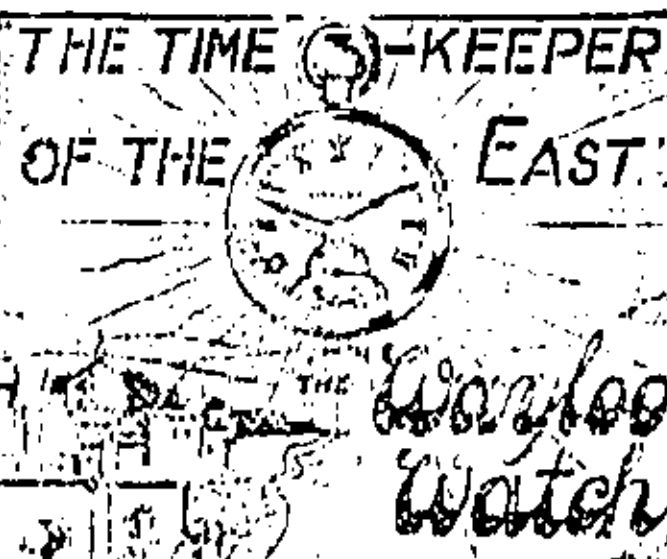


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Watch. In nickel case.  
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his business.

## A TREASURE SHIP.

REPORTED SEIZED BY  
BOLSHEVIKS.

FOODSTUFFS FOR HONGKONG.

Treasure and foodstuffs, bound for Hongkong on board a Chinese coasting steamer, are alleged to have been seized by Chinese troops, said to be under the Canton Government.

This morning's vernacular papers state that a meeting was convened last night to discuss means to protect the interests of shipowners whose boats run along the coast of Kwangtung.

It transpired that the s.s. "Wah Shan," which is under the Chinese flag, but which was registered as Chinese a few months ago, left the French port of Kwong Chow Wan about two days ago. Her cargo included over \$30,000 in Canton subsidiary coins, also pigs, cattle, poultry, native sugar and mats. The report is that when this small ship was near the port of Yeungkong she was stopped by soldiers from Canton, who took away all the cargo and money.

According to recent reports Yeungkong is in the hands of Commander Chan Kwing-ming standard. Commander Chan is allied to General Tang Pan-yan of the southern peninsula and Hainan Island. His troops cannot be classified as "under the Canton Government" as the reverse is the case. Nor has anything been heard of Canton troops capturing Yeungkong and district.]

Strike pickets at Kongmoon, brandishing Mausers and other firearms, boarded a Hongkong cargo-boat and took away two of the crew for entering that port without a permit, but the junk was "rescued" by an anti-Red commander.

Such is the gist of a report made to the Hongkong authorities by the boat owner. He sailed from Hongkong to Kongmoon with about 2,000 piculs of coal (over 100 tons). On arrival there the strike pickets forcibly took away his licence, although he had informed that the coal was for Commander Li Yat-ngok, erstwhile garrison commander of Kongmoon and one of General Leung Hung-kai's assistants.

Commander Li fled from Kongmoon on the approach of the Red vanguard from Canton, but he did not lose his coal. With the junk lying in the strikers' hands he sent and took the junk away by force. After the coal had been landed he sent the junk back to Hongkong.

## S.S. "HONAM."

CARRIES OVER 1,000 PEOPLE  
TODAY.

BUT NO CARGO.

On her return to Hongkong from Canton yesterday, the s.s. "Honam" brought back 10 passengers, including 15 Europeans. The efforts of the strike pickets to prevent anyone boarding the vessel from Canton who has not a permit have been rebuffed and strong action is reported to have been taken in respect of shipowners who have not observed "orders." No difficulty is experienced in passengers getting ashore other than in beating down the sampans owners who are reported to have demanded a first \$10 for passage and eventually to have come down by competition to the regulation 20 cents.

This morning the "Honam" left with over 1,000 passengers aboard and no cargo.

STUDENTS GO TO CANTON.  
Observers who watched the recent departures of the s.s. "Honam" for Canton have informed the "China Mail" that a proportion of the passengers were obviously students who had been refused re-admission to Hongkong schools and were, presumably, making their way to Canton.

Although a good many go up each trip, the travellers are nearly all of the middle and better of us Chinese—not workers, but those with business or family interests in Canton.

This morning's crowd included a large number of emigrants who had returned from America and were seeking their way to their respective homes.

## PLEA OF GUILTY.

ALLEGED "FURIOUS  
DRIVING."

EUROPEAN CHARGED.

Before Mr. S. B. B. McElderry at the Central Magistracy this morning, Mr. C. W. Mackenzie, of the "Tatoo Docks," was charged with driving his motor car in a furious and negligent manner, thereby causing bodily harm to two Chinese, and with failing to report the accident.

Chief Inspector W. Kent, who presented on behalf of the Traffic Department, said that a man and a woman were crossing the street at 1 o'clock yesterday morning when the motor car coming along Queen's Road Central from a westerly direction collided with the pedestrians, who were throwing heavily to the ground, and drove away. The man was the more seriously injured of the two who were now in hospital. The latest report, Mr. Kent said, was that the man was suffering from injuries to his head and the woman had multiple injuries.

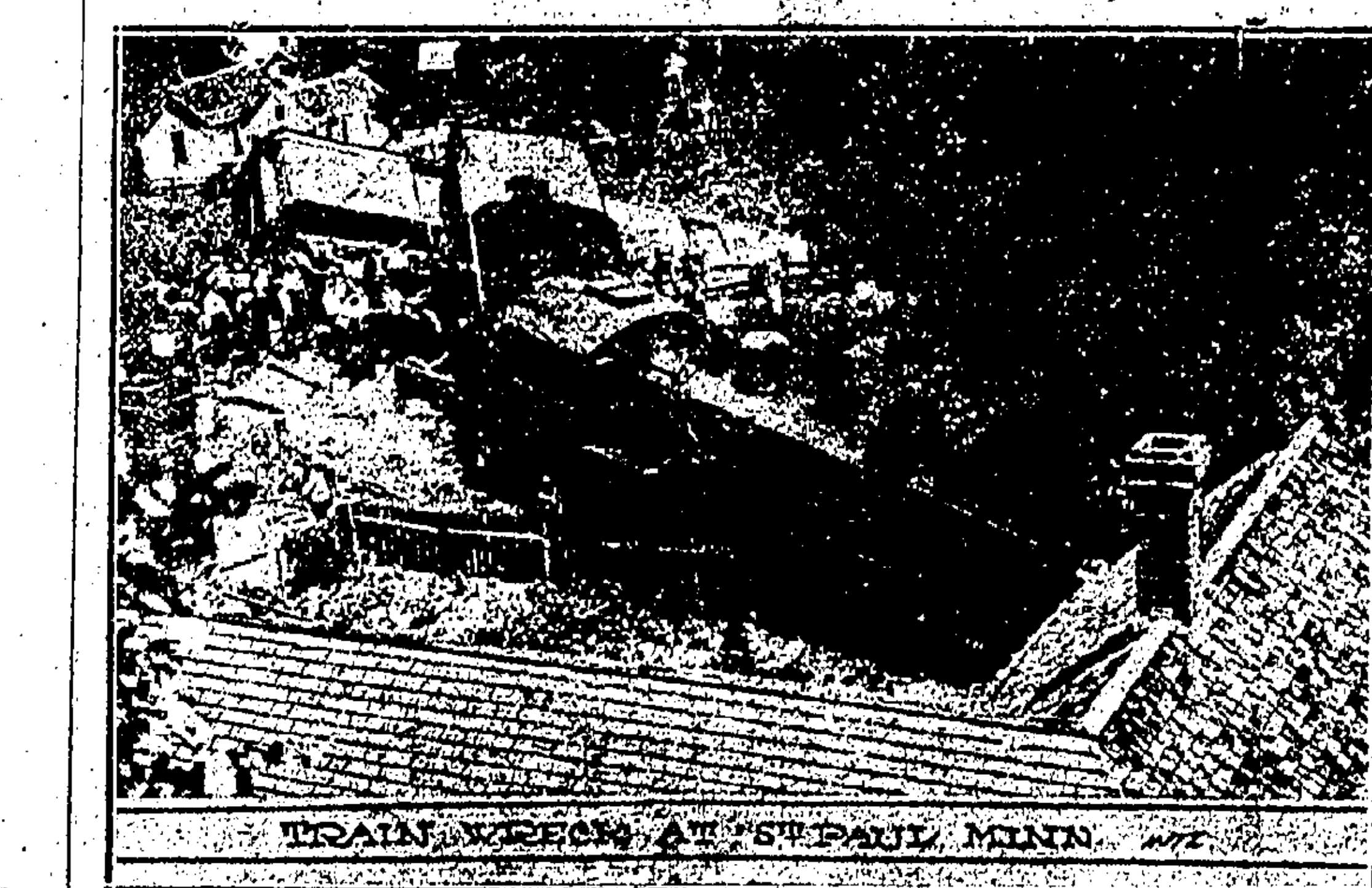
A plea of guilty was tendered, and the case was adjourned for one week to await further developments as regards the injured persons.

Bail was fixed at \$400.

## MOTOR FATALITY.

LORRY DRIVER CHARGED  
WITH MANSLAUGHTER.

As a sequel to the death of a Chinese fortune-teller from injuries caused by a motor lorry belonging to Messrs. A. S. Watson and Company, a charge of manslaughter was preferred against a



A broken flange in the wheel of a mail-car caused the locomotive and three cars of the North-western railroad's Limited to leave the rails at St. Paul. The locomotive crashed into the back porch of a home.

man alleged to have been the driver of the vehicle before Mr. S. B. B. McElderry at the Central Magistracy this morning.

The facts as stated by the prosecution were that on Monday afternoon the lorry turned into Wellington Street from Queen's Road and was brought to a halt on the slope. Apparently owing to a slackening of the brakes during the absence of the driver, the vehicle backed to the pavement and ran over the legs of an old man who was seated there writing letters. The injured man died at the Government Civil Hospital the same evening.

The accused pleaded not guilty and was remanded for one week.

## THEFT OF COAL.

CHARGES AGAINST LAUNCH CREWS.

At the Kowloon Magistracy this morning three Chinese members of a steam launch crew were charged with the theft of five tons of coal valued at \$25.

Mr. G. G. N. Brown, for the prosecution, asked for an adjournment as he intended to add a charge of fraudulent conversion. He also applied for warrants against three of the crew of another steam launch. He objected to bail being allowed unless the amount was sufficient to cover the value of the coal.

## CANTON'S FUTURE.

COMRADE KARAKHAN'S  
VIEWS.

REDS NOT SAFE.

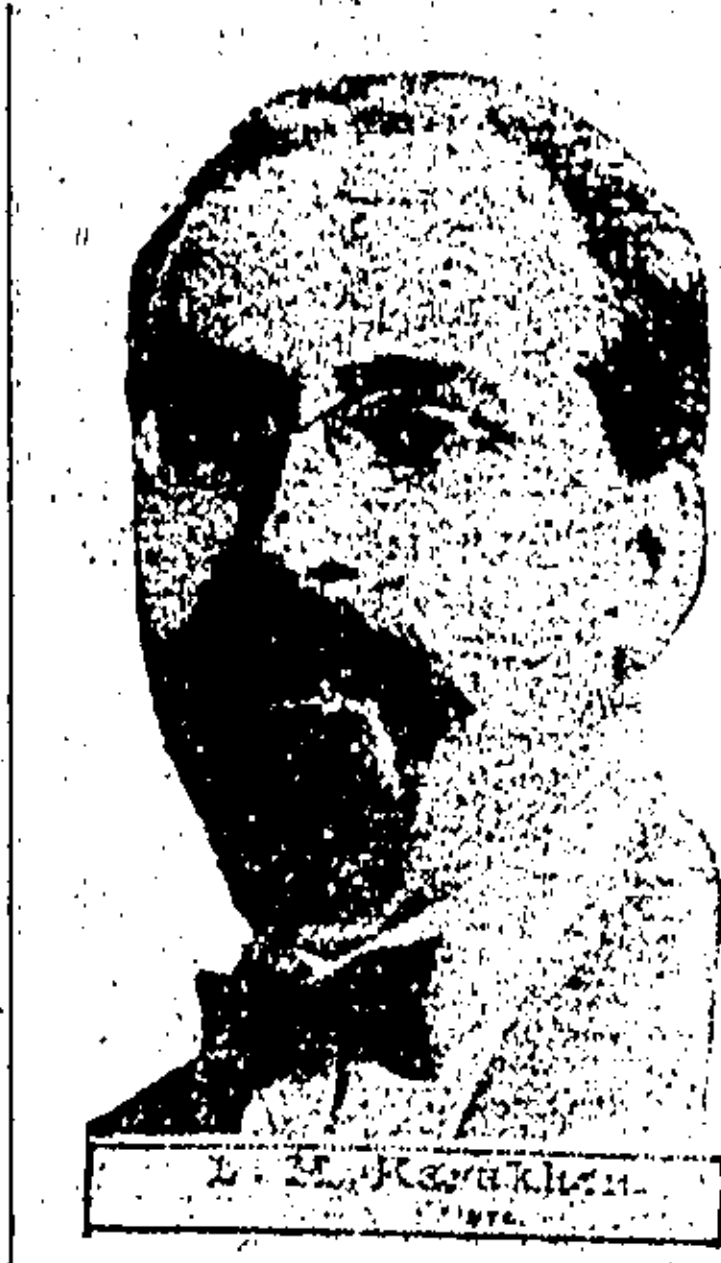
GOVERNMENT'S POSITION  
CRITICAL.

Hongkong Resolutions.

(Reuters Service.)

Riga, Sept. 9.

According to advices from Moscow, Mr. Karakhan, who is



on furlough from Peking, commenting on the internal struggle at Canton, stated that the present position of the Kuomintang Gov-

## IN BANDITS' HANDS.

FRIEND'S COURAGE LEADS  
TO RELEASE.

LOCAL COMPRADORE'S TRIALS.

Through the courage of one of his friends who walked alone for many miles across country north of Canton city and finally entered the stronghold of the bandits with the sum demanded for ransom, Mr. Wong Shiu-tong, compradore of the Standard Oil Company of Hongkong, was released after five months' captivity. He returned to Hongkong by the s.s. "Honam" yesterday, accompanied by his brother, Mr. Wong Chung-kau, who shared his captivity.

The facts concerning their capture which were given by the two upon their return were that at the time they were returning from the worship of their ancestors at Nga Fung Hill, north of the city (it was the Ching Ming festival at the time). The bandits intercepted them on their descent and took them to a village opposite the Canton Government Arsenal at Shekchong. Here they were more or less comfortably housed, but as no one had been able to get into communication with them to pay the ransom demanded and it was rumoured that troops were on the track of their captors, they were moved further inland and continual guard was kept over them. Eventually they were taken still farther away and incarcerated in a mud hut in which there were no ventilation and no convenience of any kind. In the words of Mr. Wong "the food was unfit for animals, the clothes we

## VISIT TO JAPAN.

PRINCE GEORGE TO SAIL  
TO-MORROW.

PRINCE REGENT'S GUEST.

H.M.S. "Hawkins," the flagship of the China Station, leaves Hongkong this evening for Yokohama. The "China Mail" was informed officially this morning, in confirmation of a message previously received from Japan, that advantage would be taken of the visit for Prince George to pay an official visit to Japan in his Royal capacity. This will be the first time of his assuming this since he joined the ship.

There is to be a formal reception by the Imperial Family, and the Kasumigaseki Palace, Tokyo, is to be placed at the disposal of the Prince who is to be the guest of the Prince Regent.

H.M.S. "Hermes."

H.M.S. "Hermes" has not been at her accustomed berth since Monday and upon enquiry it was learnt that the ship had gone to Mira Bay for gunnery practice and general manœuvres.

## SLIGHTLY IMPROVED.

LATEST COASTAL SHIPPING  
POSITION.

CERTAIN WAGE DECREASES.

The shipping situation as reflected in the record of entrances and clearances from the harbour remains practically unchanged. As it affects coastal trade more particularly, a representative of one of the best known firms in Hongkong who was approached by a "China Mail" representative this morning, said that there certainly appeared to be fewer ships laid up than at any time since the strike, but the freight being carried amounted to comparatively little. Things generally showed signs of a slight improvement but nothing like a return to normal yet.

Asked if it was not a fact that the 10 per cent. decreases in wages of seamen which had been enforced in certain cases was resulting in the better men leaving the coastal service and accepting more remunerative pay in other shipping concerns, the "China Mail" informant said that the decreases were not in any way representative of a vindictive attitude but were due to the force of economic circumstances. With little money coming in it was imperative that there should be economy. He could not speak for others, but his firm were getting all the men they wanted at the reduced rates—in fact the men were very glad to get the jobs.

As regards the situation generally as it affects shipping he was afraid that he could see no definite signs of vital improvement, although, as the present state of affairs was affecting the merchants more and more considerably as time went on there might be hope of some move on their part. He thought they were genuinely doing their best to restore trade.

## STOKER'S STRATEGY.

"SOFT" DRINKS AS MEANS  
TO STRONGER.

NAVAL COURT MARTIAL.

By having printed and sold their contents to comrades, books of tickets similar to those used in payment for soft drinks at the "Gaffer" shop or soda water stall on board H.M.S. "Hawkins," Stoker F. J. Capper was alleged to have obtained money with which to obtain elsewhere drinks of a stronger nature.

He was found drunk and asleep in the cook's mess and the books were found in the centre of a search of his locker for liquor. The charges against him were therefore drunkenness and for being so drunk as to be incapable of duty, and he was sentenced to be confined in a place of solitary confinement for 14 days.

He was sentenced to be confined in a place of solitary confinement for 14 days.

## THE NEWEST NECKWEAR.



It is a fact that we can place before you at any time an attractive selection from London's latest productions in fine neckwear; never were we in a better position to substantiate our claim than we are now. The opportunity to show you our stock is sought and a courteous welcome awaits you whether you come to buy or merely to see our varied selection.

Silk Bows from \$1.75  
Wide Ties from \$2.50

## MACKINTOSH

& CO., LTD.

Men's Wear Specialists.

Alexandra Building,

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## Lee Yee's

Hair Dressing Saloon

and Bookstore

open as usual

at

12 D'Aguilar Street,

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## WILSON BROS.

Talent up to date Jewellery  
engraving, Repair and Wedding  
rings a specialty.

70, 88 Nathan Road, Kowloon.  
Tel. A. 809.

## LEE KEE

Agent for

HENRY RICHARD

TILE CO'S.

We have a large stock of  
White Glazed Wall Tiles,  
Coloured Glazed Wall Tiles,  
Coloured Glazed Tiles,  
Coloured Glazed Tiles,  
Coloured Glazed Tiles,  
Coloured Glazed Tiles.

Inspection invited.

Shedroom, St. William's.

Tel. C. 1468.



## GREEN ISLAND CEMENT CO., LTD.

## BEST PORTLAND CEMENT

SHEWAN, TOMES &amp; CO.

General Managers  
HONGKONG.

## CHINA PROVIDENT LOAN &amp; MORTGAGE COMPANY, LTD.

Advances made on Landed Property,  
Goods, etc.Trustees of Estates, Executors of  
Wills, etc.Warehousing of Goods of all  
Description.For terms and particulars  
Apply at the Head-Office,

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Telephone C. 781.

Telegraphic address "RELYAT."

## THE HONGKONG TUG &amp; LIGHTER Co., Ltd.

Single packages and small consignments  
received and delivered by Motor  
Lighter.Lighterage of any description undertaken.  
Tugs and Lighters may be obtained at  
all hours.Motor Boat and Launches available  
for Bathing Parties.For terms and particulars apply at the  
HEAD OFFICE—ST. GEORGE'S BUILDING.Head Office—Central 781. Night Sunday or Holiday  
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## HONGKONG &amp; TERRITORIAL ESTATES, LTD.

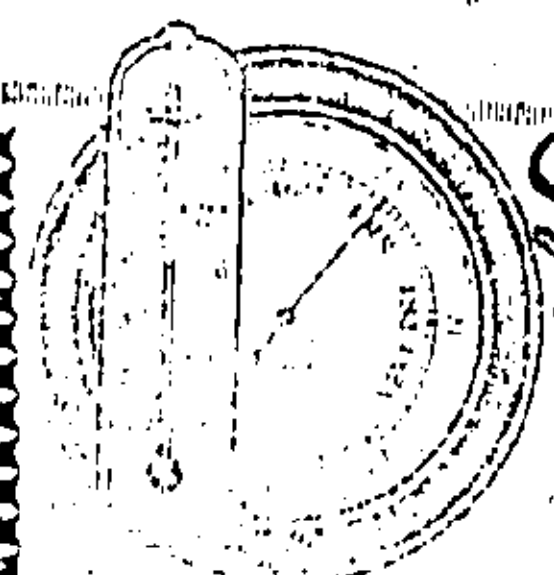
(Property Owners, Estate Agents,  
Land Valuers, etc.)

WILL UNDERTAKE THE

Development and Improvement of Landed  
Property and attend to all Branches of  
Real Estate Business.For terms and particulars  
Apply at the Head Office,

Tel. C. 781. "St. George's" Building.

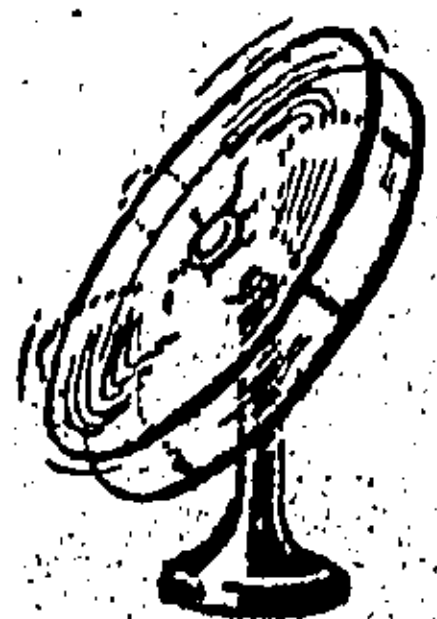
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Fresh Air on Top!

WHEN it is "set fair" with  
the thermometer in the  
eighties you can always  
command a refreshing  
breeze from your

## Electric Fan

It will keep you fit until  
holiday-time, and sustain  
you at concert-pitch after-  
wards.One unit of electricity will  
drive a small fan for 20  
hours.

## THE CHINA LIGHT &amp; POWER CO., (1918) LTD.

Showroom: 68, Nathan Road, Kowloon.

Telephone No. E. 577.

## COMMERCE AND FINANCE.

## RUBBER SHARE MARKET.

Advices received by the Hongkong Small Investors' Share and Real Estate Co., from Singapore state that the rubber share market in Singapore has been steady throughout the week and considerable confidence has been displayed with certain activity. A good portion of the better class stocks have been disposed of while speculation in cheaper shares resulted in an improved quotation. In London there are more buyers than sellers and prices have advanced slightly. The metal quotation has been around £260.00, while a somewhat quiet market was recorded; a few sterling show marked improvement. Loans are in good demand with practically no paper offering. Loans—1918 are wanted at \$102.00. Conversion at \$103.50. Victory at \$106.50 and 7 per cent. at \$103.00.

Rubbers.—New Craigielea have attracted a lot of attention, and with good enquiries, the shares are quoted at close \$1.52½ middle. Joram Kuantans have been steady round \$1.05, closing in demand at the figure. Brogas can be placed in quantity at \$1.20, sellers asking \$1.25. Bassette have improved a shade to \$1.15 ex. buyers. Bukit Jelotong have good enquiries up to \$1.15. Jimahs can be placed at \$1.85. Tambalaks at \$1.25 and United Malacca at \$2.15. Ulu Benuts are wanted at 58 cents, with seller at 60 cents and Mentakabs are quoted 38 to 40 cents. Bukit Kallia have buyers at \$1.30, sellers 5 cents over, and Glenalys are wanted at \$2.05. New Scudais have improved to \$2.50 buyers and offer at \$2.55. Colinsburghs can be placed at \$2.50, sellers 10 cents over. Indragiris are quoted \$8.15 to \$8.30. Kluangs are in demand at \$6.75, a few offering at \$6.90. Papias made \$9.25 cum., closing in demand at the figure. Sungai Buarms are better at \$2.90 to \$3.10. Kempas have buyers at \$6.00 and offer at \$6.25. Tappahs have good enquiries at \$18.75 cum., a few offering at \$19.00.

## Rubber.

Highest, Lowest, Closing.  
London ... 3/5½, 3/3½, 3/4½.  
Singapore ... \$1.30, \$1.20, \$1.29.  
New York ... \$0.82, \$0.79, \$0.82.

Stocks in London, week ending August 22, 1925. 5,390 tons, 300 tons increased.

Mining.—Amongst Sterlings, Idria show steady improvement, closing buyers at 43½, with sellers 1½ over. Chanderiangs continue in demand at 23½, and offer at 23½. K.L. Tins have jumped to 27½ with a strong enquiry. Kampongs have buyers at 49½ and Kamuntangs at 57½, both offering 1½ over. Ratruts are steady round 10½ and Renouars at 54½ to 56½. In the dollar section, Kintass have improved to \$1.10 buyers, with sellers at \$1.12. Kuchais are easier round \$1.32½ with the Preference at \$1.40, and Linruis are quoted \$1.30 to \$1.35. Petalings are quiet at \$2.00 to \$2.05 while Rahman Hydraulics have cheaper sellers at \$1.77½, with buyers at \$1.72. Souths have made 65 cents and offer further and Norths and Taipings are neglected round 75 cents and \$1.15 respectively. Mambuas have steady enquiries at \$1.25, a few offering at \$1.30. Johans, on an improved output, close buyers at 56 cents, sellers asking 60 cents. Pengkalans have enquiries at \$15.75 and offer at \$16.00.

## Tin.

Highest, Lowest, Closing.  
London ... £280.70, £259.10, £250.15.  
Singapore ... \$191½, \$190¾, \$191.

775 tons sold, week ending August 26, 1925.

Industrials.—Steamships have improved steadily, closing with \$330.00 bid, while a few offer at \$335.00. "Weinies" can be placed up to \$12.75 with sellers at \$13.00. Robinsons are much better with buyers at \$26.50, sellers asking \$27.00. Fraser & Neaves are wanted at \$51.50 and offer at \$52.50. Straits Traders have enquiries at \$29.50, sellers \$29.75. Engineers, after business at \$11.00 have fallen away sharply, and close offering at \$10.25. Hammers offer at \$202.00, with buyers \$5.00 under.

## Dividends.

Perak River Valley Rubber Co., Ltd. 5 per cent. 2nd interim dividend for year ending September 30, 1925, payable September 18, 1925. Books closed September 9 to 17, 1925.

Eastern United Assurance Corporation, Ltd. final dividend of 5 per cent. (making 10 per cent.) with 5 per cent. bonus a/c year ending June 30, 1925, and a further bonus of \$1.00 per share, which will be utilized to increase the amount paid up on the shares from \$2.00 to \$3.00.

Malayan Tin Dredging, Ltd. 1a. per share (89th div.), payable in London September 8, 1925.

Tapah Rubber Estates, Ltd. 10 per cent. interim dividend for year ending December 31, 1925, payable September 15, 1925. Books closed September 8 to 15, 1925.

Pajam, Limited. 10 per cent. interim dividend for year ending September 30, 1925, payable September 5, 1925. Books closed August 29 to September 5, 1925.

W. Hammer & Co., Ltd. 5 per cent. final dividend (making 10 per cent.) a/c year ending June 30, 1925.

Malayan Tin Dredging, Ltd. 1a. per share (89th div.), payable in London September 8, 1925.

Since the above information came to hand telegraphic advice states that changes have occurred in a few of the above shares. Readers interested in getting quotations or information of any particular share not listed here will obtain same upon request at telephone 4680, 10, Des Vaux Road, Small Investors.

## LINEN MARKET.

Belfast Market Report.

July 29.

Flax.—There is nothing new to report with reference to the new Irish crop. Any small lots of flax on hand are being bought up at unchanged prices. On the Continent, the bulk of the new crop is saved and reports are fairly satisfactory. There is a fair demand for good flax, but selection is very difficult owing to supplies being small, as scutching is stopped by small workers to save the crops.

Latvian.—The entire Government stock of flax is now stated to be about 750 tons, mostly Selwancburg. Supplies are almost nil, and although presents hold some stocks, it is thought these will not be brought in until the new crop comes along. Prices are nominally the same, but the sharp rise has checked business. The new crop is doing very much better now.

Estonian.—Supplies are trifling and holders are very stiff. The total crop has turned out much less than expected. The weather is now dry and warm, so that the young plant is making splendid progress.

Soviet.—The Co-operative Societies are all pretty well cleared out, although speculators still hold moderate stocks. Little business being done at the big advance. Crop is now here also favourable.

Yarns.—A quiet market is still to be reported, with practically no change in values. In some departments more business has been forthcoming. Buyers are showing more confidence. Tow prices are slightly better, and this has been greatly aided by the stoppage of numerous spindles usually running on these yarns. Yarns for Cambrics have proved to some extent, Continental Spinners are firmer in their ideas.

Weavers.—More business has been placed on the holidays, and Manufacturers take a cheery view of the situation. Our salesmen go out from now on to the United States, and they are all imbued with the belief that the market has touched bottom, indeed, some of them hold the opinion that the present rates for merchandise are unduly low. It would appear that all conditions of the trade tend towards a gradual improvement.

Merchants.—As is usual, during Summer Sales and Holiday Season, the Home demand is quiet. Export trade is of a sort of up nature. Quotations are unchanged at figures which show no profit on present costs.

A considerable quantity of Danmusk has been sold, and large enquiries for Crested Danmusk are in the market.

Dress Linens.—Market conditions are decidedly better, and stocks of Coloured Linens have been considerably reduced. White and Oyster shades are in short supply; these colours having been in good demand. Some orders have recently been arranged for Coloured Goods of a finer and better quality, than the coarse weaves which have been popular for some time past. The amount of new business placed for Linen Suitings is encouraging and interest in these goods is well maintained.

The advantages of advertising are coming to be appreciated more and more in the Soviet Union. It is estimated that the sum of 20,000,000 rubles is spent on advertising in the city of Moscow alone every year. Such institutions as the annual Nizhni Novgorod Fair, the Gum or State Department Store, and the Moscow Prom, the Moscow Conference, the Moscow Trust, employ widespread and persistent advertising, much of it in the form of illustrated posters. The Moscow Prom, for example, is a large building, and its walls are covered with posters. The Moscow Trust, for example, is a large building, and its walls are covered with posters. The Moscow Conference, for example, is a large building, and its walls are covered with posters.

## SPECULATION.

How People Lose Their Heads.

By JOHN REID.

Reading about the scenes of frantic excitement that have been occurring these last few days on the London Stock Exchange because of the rubber "boom" I am led to ask myself what it is that all of a sudden seems to affect large numbers of people like a virus and causes them to lose their heads altogether and, very often, their money.

The desire to grow rich without effort is, of course, deeply implanted in most people, and I often suspect that even the moralists who write books pointing out that money gained without the sweat of one's brow brings no happiness are, to say the least, exaggerating even their own views.

## Infections.

But the speculative fever, with its sudden manifestations of mad excitement, it seems to me, a more mysterious thing than the simple wish to make money easily and swiftly. For the vast majority of speculators know from long and bitter experience that, far from making money, they will almost certainly lose money, and yet they cannot resist rushing in when they see other people rushing in.

The psychology of the herd speculator is very odd. He is subject to waves of alternate optimism, and these waves, often enough, bear very little relation to the true facts of the situation. When markets are "booming" he can envisage nothing but good fortune and will buy, at enormous premiums, shares about which he knows next to nothing. But as soon as the market turns he is overwhelmed with doubt and dismay and sells out in desperate haste.

## "Getting Left."

And that is why speculators of the wild type—and there are any number of them in the world—so often find themselves "left with the baby."

And the curious thing is that many of these same people are, in the ordinary affairs of life, shrewd and economical men—men, so to speak, who do not take a taxicab when an omnibus would serve. But let them feel the speculative excitement, and all their judgment seems to desert them in a flash. This kind of person never learns sense. He will talk as though he were inspired by cautious calculation, but he will act as though he were inspired by half a dozen bottles of champagne.

## Pessimism of Reaction.

And, indeed, the man with the speculative fever upon him is not unlike the man who had had too much to drink. For the optimism born of drink is always followed by the pessimism of reaction. Many a man who cannot rest until he has joined in a speculation has no sooner risked his money than he wishes to goodness he had done nothing of the sort and cannot rest until he has got it out again. What seemed to him astute yesterday, to-day seems idiotic rashness.

They say that experience teaches wisdom—it is the most partial proverb ever invented.

The Georgian manganese concession to the W. A. Harrison interests is still in the forefront of public attention. Mr. Minkin, a member of the concessions committee, declared in a recent statement that this concession is not to be interpreted as an abrogation of the Soviet Government of giving preferential economic treatment to citizens of states which have recognized the Soviet Union. Mr. Minkin added that for a time German and British interests were in the field as competitive bidders for the manganese concession, and only the fact that the American offer was more advantageous from a business standpoint brought about the rejection of the German and British offers.

## THE MERCANTILE BANK OF INDIA, LTD.

HEAD OFFICE:

14, Broad Street, London, E. C. 4.

Authorized Capital ... £2,000,000

Subscribed Capital ... £1,000,000

Paid-up Capital ... £1,000,000

Reserve Fund ... £1,000,000

The Bank of India, Ltd. is a public company limited by shares.

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## HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

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STRAITS CAPITAL ... \$2,000,000

PAID-UP CAPITAL ... \$1,000,000

RESERVE FUND ... \$1,000,000

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## AERATED WATERS.

All water used in the manufacture of our Aerated Waters is scientifically treated and tested.

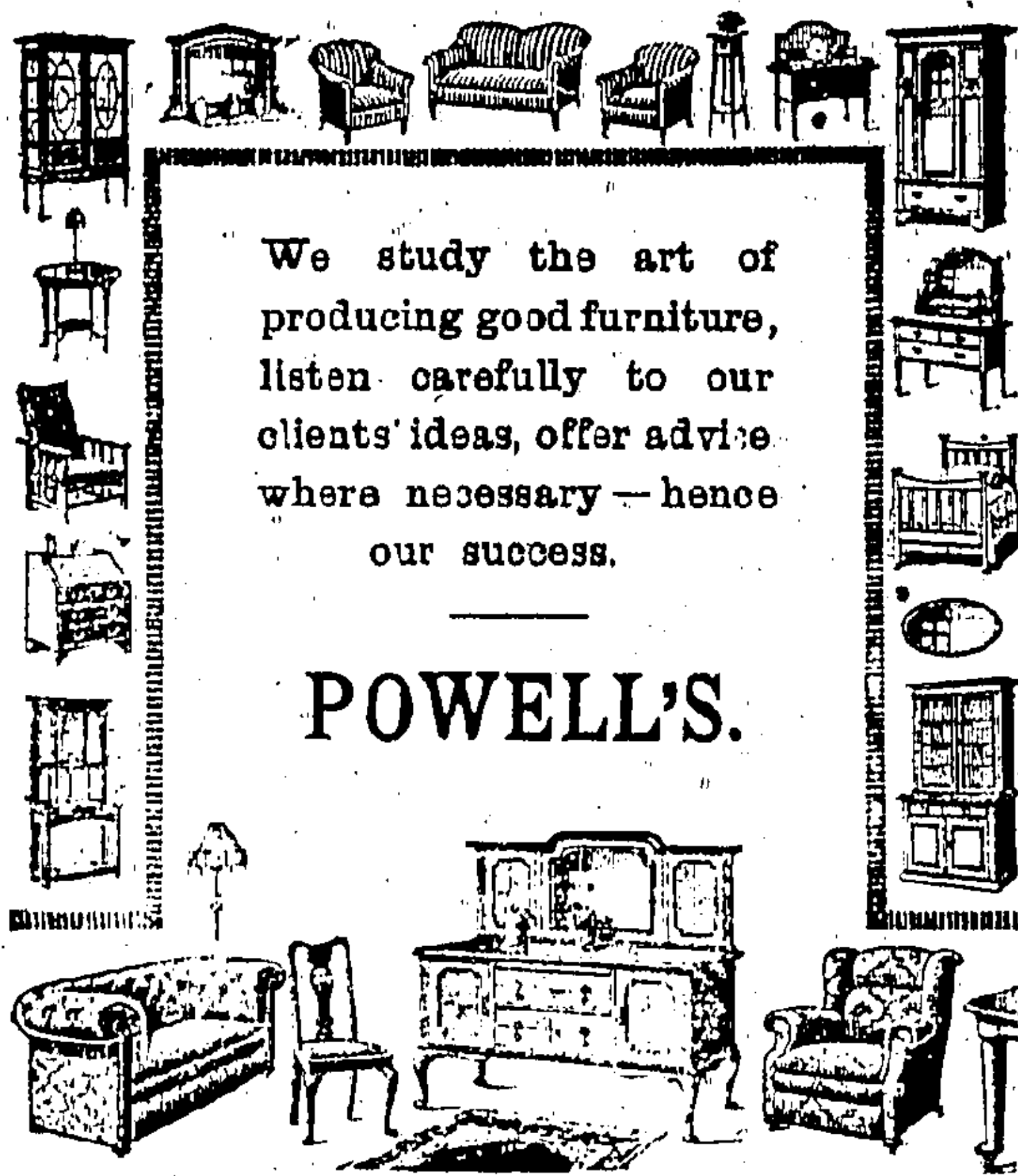
Our Machinery and plant embody all the very latest scientific improvements and the most hygienic methods and safeguards are employed in every detail of manufacture.

At no point during the entire process of manufacture is contamination possible.

We guarantee that all Aerated Waters as they leave our Factory are absolutely pure.

**A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD.**

Aerated Water Manufacturers.  
Phone C. 498.



We study the art of producing good furniture, listen carefully to our clients' ideas, offer advice where necessary—hence our success.

**POWELL'S.**

## DAIRY FARM NEWS.

As from to-morrow the 10th, Ice may be had on credit at our Ice Depot, Pottinger Street, and at our Kowloon and Peak Branches.

Pass books on application.

THE DAIRY FARM, ICE & COLD STORAGE CO., LTD.

## REGISTRATION.

We have pleasure in notifying the Public that arrangements have now been completed by this Bureau for carrying out the Registration of Servants. A fee of \$1.00 per head will be charged, for which a certificate will be issued giving name, photograph and thumbprint. At the termination of the present situation we hope to be able to supply servants of all descriptions for a nominal fee.

**DOMESTIC SERVANTS EMPLOYMENT & REGISTRATION BUREAU.**

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Hongkong, Wednesday, Sept. 9, 1925.

## THE PEKING PARLEY.

Neither the Earl of Oxford nor Lord Balfour will represent Britain at the Customs Tariff Revision Conference to be held on October 26, as had been rumoured. By sending men of this calibre, Britain, the gossip said, intended "to make a bid for lost prestige." There should be satisfaction in the fact that prestige does not enter into the matter and that Britain has entrusted her side of the case to gentlemen who may well be described as experts in that they have full knowledge of the subjects to be discussed, and a practical knowledge of the temperament and mentality of those with whom they will meet in the conference room. The forthcoming conference will be among the most important that has ever taken place regarding China. It will be the first, probably, of several conferences that will be held under the terms of the historic Washington Agreement, and may well preface a new era for the Chinese and their much-troubled country, seeing that the question of finance must necessarily figure prominently in any decision reached. Decisions are likely to be reached, for the British have been making the Chinese pay for the privilege of trading with them.

to lay special emphasis have not been made known. Japan has not been slow to publish some of the points upon which she will make definite claim. Some of these points suggest matters of controversy. In all of them there is the insistence of the right of Japan to what may seem on the surface to be preferential treatment. But it can be said at once that these points or claims are secondary to the insistence that China must stabilise herself and make herself a nation to be respected and trusted. If the first of the Japanese claims does not state this in so many words, it leads to the conviction, for it reads: "...the increase of customs revenue shall be used to readjust China's financial condition and settle outstanding obligations to foreign countries." Chinese diplomacy will probably rise superior to the cruel facts of the present situation in China, pointing to the fact that the Peking government has seemingly no power to enforce its rule, nor the ability—we had almost said desire—to bring to an end the intolerable conditions at Shanghai and Canton. Whilst Delegates of all nationalities will probably come to the Conference with an open and sympathetic mind, they will come to it also armed with stubborn facts. It is inconceivable that any decisions will be reached which will not be qualified with some protective conditions having to do with a reasonably permanent settlement. China and the insistence of the policy of the open-door with the freedom and protection that term should connote. Increased trade will mean increased Customs duty; both will mean not merely prosperity for the foreign nations engaged in trade with China, but for China herself, with increased revenues to meet her many loan obligations and to assist her to put her affairs on a reasonably sound basis. Hongkong will take a keen interest in the progress of the work of the Commission, not merely in its general and possibly far-reaching aspect—but in the hope that trade conditions in Canton, for the sake of any decision reached, will be improved and early settlement of the Commission's work will be hastened.

The strikes of employees of the Mozambique Company for improved conditions affected the post office, customs and other services, and threatened to bring all commercial activity to a standstill. The strikes of employees of the Mozambique Company for improved conditions affected the post office, customs and other services, and threatened to bring all commercial activity to a standstill. The strikes of employees of the Mozambique Company for improved conditions affected the post office, customs and other services, and threatened to bring all commercial activity to a standstill.

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## Debt of Honour.

With cheers the British House of Commons received an official statement that his Majesty's Government felt convinced that the time had come when the question of the French war debt should be brought to a conclusion. It was reported some time previously that a French financial mission had conferred with British Treasury officials and had returned home in a huff because Britain asked too much. It is said that the French offer represented the annual payment of one per cent. on France's war debt of about \$800,000,000 to Great Britain. With this offer is contrasted Great Britain's funding of her debt to the United States on the basis of 3 1/4 per cent. The experts of Great Britain still value the \$20,000,000 from France annually. It should be shown that this amount is impossible," comments the Paris "Matin." During the whole of the debt negotiations France has displayed a mentality curiously at variance with her chivalrous war attitude. To the average Briton money borrowed is a debt incurred, placing upon the borrower personal responsibility to repay. This elementary procedure does not accord with French post-war ideas. By some queer method of reasoning, France places a war debt incurred by her in a category quite different from ordinary indebtedness. It is something which she can repay when she pleases, and is, indeed, more a matter of grace than anything else. Britain takes another view. She might readily have pleaded distress when the question of returning money borrowed from the United States was raised. Instead she undertook an immense annual repayment to the United States over a long term of years. With her it was purely a matter of honour. Such Quixotic notions are not shared by France, who would drive a hard bargain. Unfortunately the propriety of mentioning this when she borrowed the money escaped her.

## THEY SAY THAT—

We live in a most beautiful, mysterious universe.—Sir Oliver Lodge.

We electors are not such fools as the politicians imagine.—Mr. Alfred Hopkinson.

The leading article in the "Daily Mail" is not evidence.—Mr. Justice Avory.

The voice of the people is not the voice of God, and never has been since a famous occasion when the voice of the people cried, "Crucify Him!"—Dean Inge.

The man who believes in God does not need a Church.—Mr. J. Middleton Murry.

Sometimes my plays are ten miles long in the original.—Mr. Bernard Shaw.

I pass in England as a pro-temperance man, and as a matter of fact, right.—Lord Haldane.

Neither is the substantial reality; matter is merely a milky, cobwebby phenomenon.—Sir Oliver Lodge.

I do not believe that the public knows what it wants.—Mr. Charles Chaplin.

In suffering Regent-street to be destroyed was have lost the supreme example of good manners in architecture.—Mr. A. T. Watson.

As for my telephone work, America has nothing to teach you. Mr. Eugene White (Assistant U.S. Postmaster-General).

## ORDERLY STRIKERS.

PRINCIPAL DEMANDS SECURED.

BEIRA STRIKE OVER.

(Reuter's Service.)

Beira, Sept. 8. The strike of the Mozambique Company has ended. The company has conceded the principal demands of the strikers, whose orderly attitude and consideration for the public earned general sympathy.

The strike of employees of the Mozambique Company for improved conditions affected the post office, customs and other services, and threatened to bring all commercial activity to a standstill.

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## SHREDS AND PATCHES.

"Had an accident OVERBOARD on up in your hat?" THE FERRY. "Yes, I. I tumbled round suddenly in the bathroom and slipped out the window."

—There is some biting sarcasm and not a little truth in the lines of "free" verse which follow:—

"Rain," said the FOREIGN CRIMES. Russian, "It is a crime against humanity."

Slices. These cannot keep themselves Blue and shining. At all hours. From Christmas to Christmas. Must be taken down and replaced. By me."

KNOW ALL ABOUT vellers are noted. THEM. for the tales they tell—all true.

The writer met one in the Hotel lounge the other day who proceeded to tell him of his early days as a book canvasser. Travelling round a country district, he reached a small farm where he interviewed a tall, severe-looking woman in the garden.

"Madam," he said, persuasively, "I am sure you will be much interested in this book I am selling, named, 'The Habits of Savage Animals.' It is full of new and wonderful information."

"Not to me," said the lady, coldly. "It is a subject with which I am far too well acquainted."

"Why," said the surprised canvasser, "have you ever kept any such animals?"

"No," was the reply, "but I have been married twice!"

This is something akin to the reasons given by the late Marie Corelli as to why she never married. She had a cat, a canary and a parrot—and that was sufficient. These sort of libels should be stopped by Act of Parliament.

THEY tell us to "go to the ant and thou sluggard, consider her ways and be wise." Some of Hongkong's workers should be minded of Thomas Dreier's sermon on a Bee.

He tells us that a red clover blossom contains less than one-eighth of a grain of sugar and that seven thousand grains of sugar are required to make a pound of honey. Now a vagabond bee, seeking everywhere for sweetness, must get this material from fifty-six thousand clover heads. To do this he must insert his proboscis into each flower-tube—and there are about sixty of these to each head of clover. Sixty times fifty-six thousand is three million three hundred and sixty thousand. That means that the bee performs the operation that many times and gets only nectar for one pound of honey—and then some one else gets the honey!

And then we talk about hard work!

Dr. Jones was sleeping soundly after an all-night session when his telephone rang. Drugging himself of the instrument, he answered impatiently. It was the voice of one Aaron Bimburg, who frankly implored the doctor to "come at once" on a matter of life or death. Little Aaron had swallowed a shilling, and the parents feared the worst.

The doctor dressed hurriedly, called his car and drove madly to the abode of the Bimburs. On his arrival he found the parental Bimburs calm and apparently much relieved. "It's all right now, doctor," said Bimburg, "you needn't have come." The doctor was furious, and said, "Did he get it up?" "No," said Bimburg, "but it was only a thruppenny bit. We found the shilling on the floor."

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## THE AUTHOR'S RIGHTS.

The world is, we fear, but little interested in the rights of authors, or their wrongs. Your man of letters is not a sympathetic character, observes a Home paper. But even an author should have justice, and we hope that Parliament will not ignore the Bill which Sir William Bull has introduced to change two points in the law bearing hardly upon the profession of authorship. One is rather a matter of principle than of general importance. At present, when a book appears to someone in authority sections, blasphemous or obscene, the publisher is prosecuted, not the author, and the author has no right to be heard in his own defence. Such cases are very seldom fought by the publisher, who, very naturally, prefers to plead ignorance or inadvertence rather than defend the character of the book. It is hardly to be denied that this is inequitable. If the author has a defence he ought to be allowed to make it. On the other hand, if he has not he is probably quite as guilty as the publisher. Therefore we must support Sir William Bull's proposed reform that when such proceedings are taken in future, the author should be brought into court. Yet we confess that it is but a small point. Prosecutions of this sort are rare, and rare still the cases in which there is much room for argument about the character of the book. The second reform is of much greater importance. Readers are becoming familiar with an announcement following the title in a modern novel to the effect that "all the persons in the story are imaginary." Many readers must have been moved to remark that this is a most superfluous warning. But in fact it is a protective clause against a real danger. A few years ago a distinguished lawyer was said to have written a novel in which the names of a number of persons who were well known to the public were used. The novel was a success, but the author was sued for libel. It is no doubt a source of pain to every sensitive person when they read their names used for characters which they detect. There have been some cases where a novel has been written in which the names of persons who were well known to the public were used. The novel was a success, but the author was sued for libel. It is no doubt a source of pain to every sensitive person when they read their names used for characters which they detect.







## DODWELL &amp; COMPANY, LTD.

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S.S. "KENDAL CASTLE" ... Sails 2nd Sept.

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REGULAR MONTHLY PASSENGER AND FREIGHT SERVICE FOR BRINDISI, VENICE AND TRIESTE (Fiume).  
 TAKING CARGO ON THROUGH BILLS OF LADING TO GENOA, ALL ITALIAN, ADRIATIC, LEVANT, BLACK SEA AND DANUBE PORTS.  
 REDUCED PASSAGE RATES TO BRINDISI, VENICE OR TRIESTE.  
**£66.**

## NEXT SAILINGS.

OUTWARD FOR SHANGHAI, YOKOHAMA, KOBE &amp; MOJI.

S.S. "GERANIA" (cargo only) ... Sails 10th Sept.  
 S.S. "DUCHESSA D'AOSTA" ... Sails 11th Sept.

HOMEWARD FOR BRINDISI, VENICE AND TRIESTE.

M.S. "ESQUILINO" ... Sails 7th Sept.  
 S.S. "DUCHESSA D'AOSTA" ... Sails 31st Sept.

## NATAL LINE OF STEAMERS

FROM CALCUTTA &amp; COLOMBO TO SOUTH AFRICAN PORTS.

S.S. "UMZUMBI" ... Sails 1st October.

Regular Passenger and Cargo Service to South African Ports. Through Bills of Lading issued from Hongkong.

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 Calling at Panama and other Gulf Ports if inducements offer.  
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SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.

OSDORF, HAMBURG, ROTTERDAM & ANTWERP—Via Singapore, Colombo, Suez and Port Said.  
 ALASKA MARU ... Tuesday, 8th October  
 RIO DE JANEIRO, SANTOS, BUENOS AIRES—Via Saigon, Singapore, Colombo, Durrban & Capetown.  
 CANADA MARU ... Wednesday, 9th September  
 BOMBAY—Via Singapore and Colombo  
 INDO MARU ... Thursday, 14th September  
 HONGKONG—Via Saigon  
 SEIKOW MARU ... Sunday, 14th September  
 SALUTTA—Via Singapore and Hongkong  
 SEATTLE MARU ... Sunday, 26th October  
 VICTORIA, SEATTLE, TACOMA & VANCOUVER—Via Shanghai and Japan Ports.  
 ARIZONA MARU (From Shanghai) ... Thursday, 24th September  
 NEW ICE—Via Japan ports, San Francisco and Panama.  
 ARGON MARU (From Shanghai) ... Thursday, 1st October  
 HAIKONG via HONGKONG and PAKHOI  
 AMARUSA MARU ... Friday, 18th September at 10 a.m.  
 TAIKWA MARU ... Friday, 18th September at 10 a.m.  
 JAPAN PORTS  
 AMUR MARU ... Friday, 18th September.  
 KEELUNG via SWATOW & AMOI.  
 HOZAN MARU ... Sunday, 13th Sept. at 5 p.m.  
 TAIKWA MARU ... Thursday, 17th Sept. at Noon.  
 TAKAO via SWATOW & AMOI.  
 KOTSU MARU ... Thursday, 10th Sept. at 5 a.m.  
 SAHO and HONGKONG  
 SOURABAYA MARU ... Saturday, 18th September  
 DAIKIN via CHIOFOO and TIENTSIN.  
 KITTO MARU ... Thursday, 10th September  
 For further particulars please apply to—  
 U.S.A. SHOREN KAIKWA.  
 M. TAKEUCHI, Manager.  
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Service to  
SCANDINAVIA & NORTH EUROPE  
The M/S "AUSTRALIAN"

Will be loading for Rotterdam, Amsterdam, Hamburg, Copenhagen and other Scandinavian Ports on or about 28th September.  
 Further sailings:—  
 M.S. "ASTA" ... 12th September  
 M.S. "JAYA" ... 14th October  
 M.S. "AFRIKA" ... 14th November  
 M.S. "MALAYA" ... 10th December  
 Subject to change without notice.  
 For further particulars please apply to—  
 JOHN MANNING & CO., LTD.  
 Agents for  
 THE EAST ASIATIC CO., LTD.  
 10, ROBINSON ROAD.

## LOCAL AND GENERAL.

The grand piano used by the Imperial Concert party at their all-fresco concert on the Commodore's tennis court last Friday night was kindly loaned free of charge by Messrs. Montreux and Company.

This annual general meeting of the Hongkong Hockey Club has been fixed to take place at 5.30 p.m. on Friday at the Hongkong Volunteer Defence Corps Headquarters. All members and applicants for membership are invited to attend.

In the course of his report on the Straits Settlements Police Force in 1924, Mr. G. C. Denham writes:—It is very difficult to put a check on the importation of firearms as it seems that almost every steamer coming into Singapore has someone on board who is willing to sell arms at a price.

There was no business of public interest at the meeting of the Sanitary Board held yesterday afternoon. Mr. N. L. Smith, president, the members present being Dr. W. W. Pearce, Hon. Mr. H. T. Cressy, Hon. Mr. C. G. Alabaster, K. C., Dr. W. V. M. Kock, Dr. J. C. Macgovern, Mr. Wong Kwong-tin and Dr. S. W. T'so. Others present were Dr. A. G. M. Severn and Mr. D. Davies.

The third ordinary yearly meeting of the shareholders of the Sunkin, Light and Power Company (1922) Ltd. is to take place at the offices of the Company, St. George's Building, Chester Road, on Wednesday, September 16. A statement of accounts will be presented, and the report of the General Manager for the 14 months ended June 30 will also be read; while a consulting committee and auditors will be elected.

In a case before the Chancery Division, it was mentioned by the Judge, Mr. Justice Russell, that one of the counsel, Mr. Upjohn, K.C., had occupied 25 hours in outlining his argument "which he hoped to develop at greater length before an arbitrator." "Yet," slyly remarked Mr. Justice Russell, notwithstanding that relative brevity of argument counsel has put me in possession of the case sufficiently to form a judgment." With reference to the arbitrator, it was said he had heard evidence which ran into 87,000 answers.

One of the largest real estate deals on record will take place as a result of the decision to sell the Scottish estates of Lord Leverhulme, which cover an aggregate of 562 square miles and bring into the market some of the most picturesque and historic islands of the Outer Hebrides. Lord Leverhulme spent many thousands of pounds in the development of the islands, partly for what he conceived to be the benefit of the inhabitants and partly to develop a large fishing enterprise into which he entered with characteristic vigour. The sale will include the islands of Rona and Slibsker, which are forty miles from the nearest land, the Flannan Islands, the "superiority" of St. Kilda, the Island of Harris with Ambuland and the Castle, most of the Island of Tarbert, the Island of Seaport and Salsburgh, and several smaller islands. The entire district in which the property lies has been the scene of many of the stories and romances woven around the Hebrides and is sparsely inhabited by a virile race able to withstand the boisterous climatic conditions that prevail there most of the year.

The return of notifiable diseases for the week ended September 5, shows one fatal case of enteric fever out of five reported. During the 24 hours ended on September 7, two cases of the same complaint were notified.

The lengthy speech recently delivered by Sir John Simon, the well-known London lawyer, in a big maritime lawsuit, has recalled to the Manchester Guardian that the longest forensic speech on record was that of Coleridge in the Tichborne case, which lasted for twenty-six days; and another lengthy performance was the eleven days' speech of the Attorney-General in the Behring arbitration case. Whatever may be said of Sir John's speech, it is certain that some of his great predecessors, like Esckine, Brougham and Russell, would have taken twice as long. Judges in the old days were more patient than they are now: many of them had the habit of taking naps while the lawyer laboured on. Long extracts of evidence used to be read. It is related that the great Pollock once started to read 300 letters. After a couple of hours the judge said: "Is it necessary to read all those letters, Mr. Pollock?" "Absolutely," was the reply. "For I have never seen them before." Sometimes, though, the judge rebelled. A lawyer once asked Mr. Justice Esher when it would be his pleasure to hear him. The judge said: "We are bound to hear you and will do so on Friday, but pleasure has long been out of the question." On another occasion a lawyer said to this judge: "And now My Lord, I shall address myself to the furniture." "You have been doing that for some time," said the judge.

## SOCIAL AND PERSONAL.

According to the Morning Post August 1, The Rev. Graham White, Vicar of St. Helen's, London, having offered himself for foreign service, and been accepted by the Bishop of Singapore, will leave in October for South Penak.

Mr. A. W. Blackstone, manager of Messrs. Paterson, Simons, Ltd., Pongau, has left for home on furlough by the Macdonald. As Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce a couple of years ago and a member of Committee since, Mr. Blackstone has rendered useful service.

The Earl of Ypres' will is a brief, but sensational document of twenty-five words. He bequeaths all his property, amounting to over £25,000 wholly to his solicitor, Mr. Edward Geoffrey Cox, a Territorial Officer, who served under him during the war, and who was also an old friend. The will does not affect the grant of £50,000 made in recognition of the Earl of Ypres' war services. The family decline to make any statement beyond that the terms will cause no surprise.

We record with regret the death of Mr. E. J. Gaskill, of Messrs. McAlister and Co., at the General Hospital, Singapore, from blood-poisoning. The deceased was troubled with an abscessed tooth and the inflammation spread so rapidly that he had to go to hospital, and it was early known that he was seriously ill. The deceased, who was only 25 years of age, was educated at the Dulich College, and served in the Air Force during the war. He came on from London to join the shipping department of McAlister and Co. about two years ago, and the news of his untimely death will come as a great shock to many friends in Singapore.

A certain Mr. T. A. Apear who hasn't been out of Bangkok for thirty-six years is announced to be going to Singapore for a three weeks' holiday. Can we equal this in Hongkong?

King of the Fairies, the short-horn bull owned by the Prince of Wales, has again been awarded the Grand Championship at the Calgary Alberta Exhibition. He secured the same honour last year.

Mr. Aymer Cavendish Pearson, C.M.G., assumed the Governorship of British North Borneo on August 20. Mr. F. W. Fraser, C.B.E., resumed his substantive appointment as Government Secretary on the same date.

Mr. Arthur Edmonds, State Treasurer Negri Sembilan, is again indisposed, and is in the Seremban Hospital. Mr. Sreenivasagam, Registrar of the Supreme Court, Seremban, is acting for him, whilst also carrying on his own duties.

London's authors are preparing to entertain James Oliver Curwood, whose father, born in London, ran away to sea, landed in the United States, and stopped there. His son is now visiting his father's birthplace. He is one of America's "biggest sellers." He has spent twenty years in Canada, living with the North-West Mounted Police, going on long, lonely trails, far from civilisation, travelling in canoes, braving the Arctic snows, and writing stories about it until he got so many imitators that he fled to historical fiction for safety.

The engagement is announced between Beryl, youngest daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Braddon, of Seremban, and Mr. D. Patrick Macnamara, F.M.S. Police, Seremban.

Before leaving South Africa the Prince of Wales knighted Rear-Admiral M. S. Fitzmaurice, C.B., C.M.G., the Commander-in-Chief of the Africa Station, and bestowed on him the insignia of the K.C.V.O.

Monsieur Paul Morand, has left Singapore on the last stage of his voyage to Bangkok, where he is to assume duties as the new chargé d'affaires de Siam, in succession to Monsieur Pila. M. Paul Morand is a man of letters and quite a number in Hongkong have been charmed with his writings.

Mr. R. J. H. Sidney, Headmaster of the Victoria Institution, is ending his agreement in February. We understand that he will not be returning to Malaya. In Mr. Sidney, the country loses an able educationist. Opinions differed as to the value of the Shakespearean productions by schoolboys of which he was the pioneer and to which he devoted an enormous amount of work, but those who have attended debates at the Victoria Institution will agree that, whatever the cause, the boys have an excellent command of English, both vocabulary and pronunciation, and that the demands made by the Headmaster on the personal initiative of the boys must have a lasting effect on their character. Mr. Sidney was in Hongkong at the time of the A.D.C.'s production of "Saint Joan" in which he took a great interest, acting as dramatic critic for one of the local papers.

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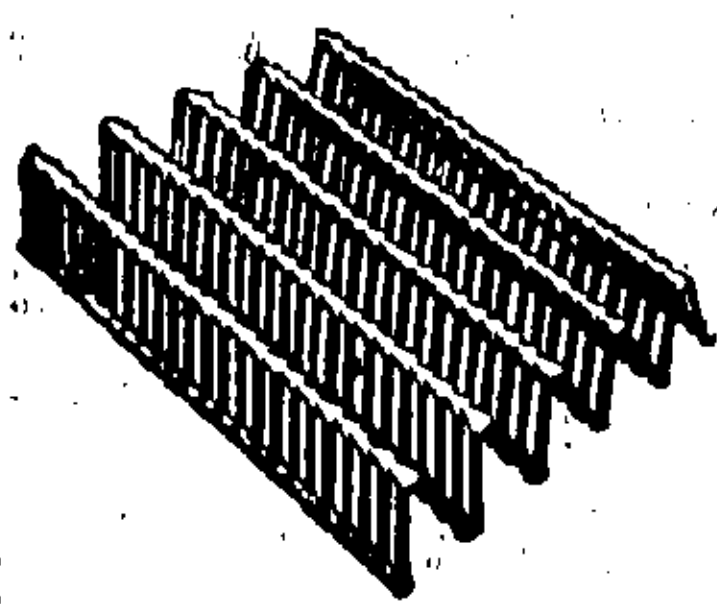




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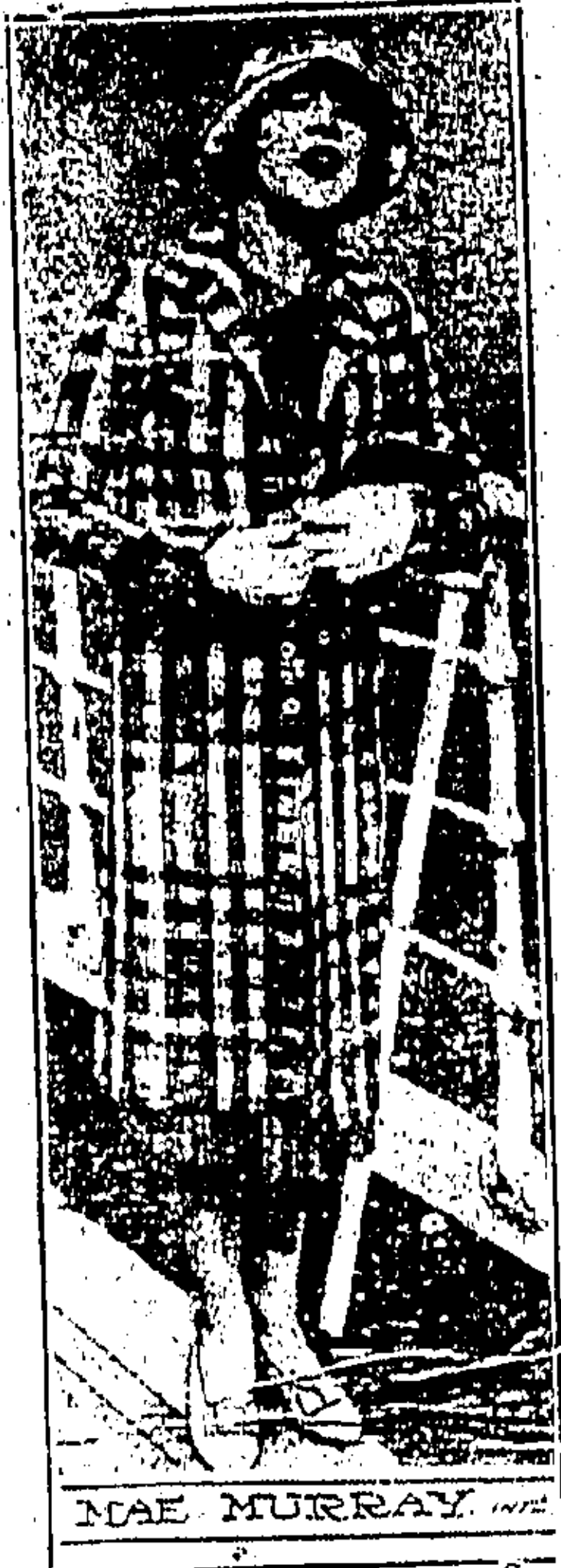
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ment of a close mutual friend at a  
New York dinner.



Robert M. La Follette, courageous independent political  
leader, when thousands of his friends joined with the knot of sorrowing relatives to see the flag-draped  
casket placed in its final resting place in Madison.



Several students were injured when the Manhattan High School was partially wrecked by earth  
tremors. The most serious damage occurred at the north and south ends of the building.



President and Mrs. Coolidge are shown as they arrived at the home of Col. John Coolidge, the  
President's sick father, at Plymouth. The couple is hurrying from the motor car which rushed them to  
the modest cottage from a special train. Their son, John, is behind them.

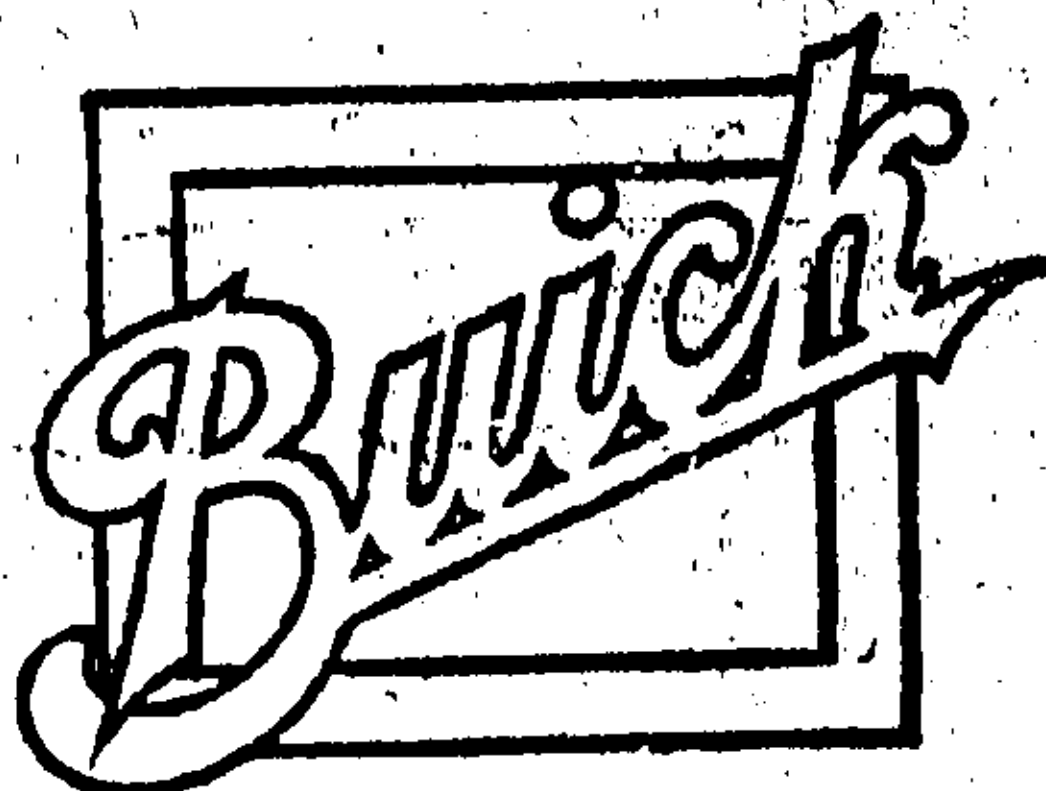


"Fins" was written to the career of Robert M. La Follette, courageous independent political  
leader, when thousands of his friends joined with the knot of sorrowing relatives to see the flag-draped  
casket placed in its final resting place in Madison.



Robert M. La Follette, courageous independent political  
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# ODDS AND ENDS

### "Land Tenure & Unemployment."

Mr. Frank Geary's book with the above title, so far as its history of the land question is concerned, is one that all students of this problem should have on their bookshelves. (Allen and Unwin, 10s. 6d. net.) There will be differences of opinion, however, as to the political and economic remedies he suggests. "By a careful examination of the history of the conditions upon which, since 1066, land has been held, he is able to show that the present system is one of the causes of the depressed condition of the agricultural labourer, which, in its turn, is one of the causes for his migration to the towns, with a consequent glut in the urban labour market," comments the "Manchester Guardian." "Stated thus, he makes good his case, and he has adduced material of great interest in his support."

### Death Stroke.

Dr. Edwin Scott, the self-styled inventor of what he terms the "death stroke" in the form of "canned" lightning, which he claims, will revolutionise existing war tactics, states that he will formally ask the American Navy Department's assistance in testing the invention of the Californian coast in September. He plans to make a test with the aid of an old battleship or a pilotless aeroplane, or both. Dr. Scott said that he wished to convince the officials of the truth of his contentions and the efficacy of the invention as a death dealing agency. He says that it is capable of the destruction of all life on land, sea, or air within a radius of 20 miles, the disabling of all radios within a similar radius, the destruction of the superstructures of battleships within 10 miles, the bringing down of aeroplanes from any height, and the destruction and the disabling of land fortifications at long distances. In a test, which he conducted, Dr. Scott claims that "holes were burned in 2in. steel plates at a distance of one mile. Dead trees were set on fire at the same distance, and animal life was snuffed out at distances from three to seven miles. Dummy planes were destroyed in air tests."

Another Important Discovery.

Professor Barton Scammell, President of the Radium Institute, Dover, writes that the discovery of the cancer germ or spore at the Mill Hill Laboratory may lead to great results in the war against this scourge of humanity. "From a practical point of view, he proceeds, 'the

discovery made at the Radium Institute, Dover, that cancer is an anaerobic — i.e., living without free oxygen — is important. It is confirmed by the experiments with tar and heavy mineral oils, which produce cancer when applied to the skin of men and animals. Tar and heavy oils are non-oxidisable, the healthy life of the cells being destroyed, forming a suitable medium for the cancer 'spore' to grow in. The great work of the late Dr. Forbes Ross finds an explanation in this discovery; also it explains the success secured in the treatment of cancer with the administration of attenuated solutions of citrate and radio-phosphate of potash, for this element is the great oxidising agent in the blood, it forms over 70 per cent. of the mineral ash of the red corpuscles, and was well described by Dr. Liebig as the 'essential' alkali. Owing to certain defects in the diet and preparation of food, the modern civilised human being suffers from 'potassium starvation,' and the increase of cancer is a corollary of this state of things. The recent report of the Middlesex Hospital calls attention to the fact that cases of cancer have been known to recover spontaneously. This curative power in the blood depends entirely on the due supply of the radio-active alkali potash. Without the help of bio-chemical science the medical man is handicapped in his fight with disease. The human body is composed of certain chemical elements, and if from any cause the due proportion of these elements is defective, then the health of the body suffers, and the system is left open to the attack of disease. An excess of calcium (lime) in the body causes rapid growth in cancer of both varieties, the accumulation of calcium is a feature of middle age; also, cancer is a disease of people over 40. It is impossible to overlook the connection of these facts. The solutions of the radio-active alkali tend to clear out of the body the calcium accumulations, and the value of them in the treatment of cancer is thus partially explained. In cases where the knife is necessary, the use of these solutions, before and after the operation, increases the chances of recovery, the vitality of the patient being improved."

### A Forest Fire.

Imagine an area of thousands of acres a seething mass of vomiting flame, belching forth arches of fire, leaping, roaring high over the tallest timber to shrivel in its clutch the tops of pines or hem-

locks scores of feet away; imagine the thunder of falling trees, the sharp crackle of flame tongues from tens of thousands of burning boles and the splitting report of riven branches as they plunge far below to the burning carpet of the forest; imagine the sullen rumble of the wind as it fans the fire into greater volume, sucking up blazing debris into swirling masses of aerial flame, rolling great drifts of smoke before it and ruining to the ground the showers of sifting ashes miles away; imagine all this, the seething furnace of fire, the thunder of a forest burning and the roar of the rushing wind! and yet I have given but a brief, imperfect outline of a timberland blaze, writes J. J. Napier in the "Canadian National Railways Magazine." It is at night that a forest fire is seen in all the glory of its destructive splendour. The day, terrible though it may seem, is but a drab affair. Dense clouds of smoke choke the air, a smoke developing, blinding, stifling, through which the sun peers but vaguely as a blood-red ball. But when night draws its curtains across the skies then the fire takes on a new and majestic mien. The whole heavens seem as if ablaze, sparkling brands go rocketing overhead like low-rushing comets, so bright are they. On the edge of the skyline a towering pine suddenly bursts into fire as a flame arch leaps to engulf it; it is as if Nature has kindled a gigantic beacon to warn mankind of a new and destructive force that had come upon him. Strange and eerie noises fill the air, fire noises heard all the long, stifling day but which seem to take on a new and weird cloak in the darkness. Man feels very small, indeed, in the presence of these blazing leagues; the very rush of the flames seems to mock his puny efforts to control them.

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